

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-14 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 8, 9, 13 and 14 are amended and claim 6 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Singh in the February 28 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

I. Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Egendorf (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0177111 A1). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

In particular, Egendorf does not disclose or suggest document information includes a history identifier identifying an original and update or revision of a document or document set and a status identifier identifying a status of original and update or revision of a document or document set...and the linkage information includes an updated or revised document or document set based on the history identifier and status of the updated or revised document or document set based on the status identifier, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 8, 9, 13 and 14.

Egendorf instead discloses at paragraph [0038] a technique which keeps track of query terms and response that people actually view afterwards. This information is then used with future queries. However, nowhere does Egendorf disclose or suggest the above-noted features of claim 1, and similarly in claims 8, 9, 13 and 14.

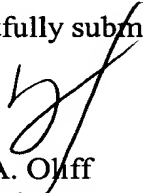
Accordingly, independent claims 1, 8, 9, 13 and 14 define patentable subject matter. Claims 2-5, 7 and 10-12 depend from the respective independent claims, and therefore also define patentable subject matter as well as for the other features they recite. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-5 and 7-14 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Yong S. Choi
Registration No. 43,324

JAO:YSC/eks

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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